

**Governor's State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education  
and Care**

**Meeting on November 11, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Crowne Plaza, 4402 East Washington Avenue, Madison**

Members present:

Reggie Bicha  
Tony Evers  
Therese Ahlers  
Nancy Armbrust  
John Ashlee  
Delores Gokee-Rindal  
Shelley Cousin  
Michael Burke  
Lupe Martinez  
Lilly Irvin-Vitela  
Peter Kelly  
Linda Leonhart  
Rick Raemisch  
Ruth Schmidt  
Mary Anne Snyder  
Carolyn Stanford Taylor  
Jon Stellmacher  
Joseph Wall  
Richard Schlimm  
Jennifer Thayer  
Dave Edie  
Angela Russell  
Linda Davis  
Mari McCarty for Rolf Wegenke  
Kortney Smith for Ann Terrell  
Richard Telfer for Kevin Riley

Staff present:

Jill Haglund  
Jane Penner-Hoppe  
Julie Schultz

Presenters:

Anne Mitchell, Early Childhood  
Policy Research

Others present:

Linda McCart, DHS  
Dennis Winters, DWD  
Katie Fischer, Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health  
Gaye Tylka, CESA 4  
Linda Tuchman, UW Waisman Center  
Ken Taylor, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families  
Leslie McAllister, DCF

Agenda Item	Discussion	Decisions of Actions
Welcome and Introductions	<p>Secretary Bicha brought the meeting to order.</p> <p>Linda Davis expressed her thanks to Secretary Bicha and Superintendent Evers for their efforts in creating the Council. Ms. Davis also thanked Secretary Bicha for his great leadership as Council Co-Chair.</p> <p>Secretary Bicha asked everyone to introduce themselves.</p> <p>Superintendent Evers thanked Secretary Bicha for his work on the Council, and observed that it was an honor working with him.</p> <p>Superintendent Evers reported that he has been working on a new school funding formula, <i>Fair Funding for Our Future</i>, which DPI will announce publicly on November 15. Superintendent Evers believes this funding change will address social justice issues so there will more adequate education funding for each child in the state</p>	
YoungStar Update	<p>Secretary Bicha reported that, when YoungStar was approved by the Joint Finance Committee in June, DCF was directed to allocate new resources as soon as possible to provide training to child care providers. Secretary Bicha expressed his appreciation to the UW System, WECA, and Supporting Families Together Association for their support for YoungStar. These organizations stepped up to put together training for child care providers around the state, and, through the end of October, have provided over 75 training sessions to 2,000 child care providers. Secretary Bicha also reported that DCF has awarded a contract to a new organization called The Consortium to provide funding and technical assistance in six regions around the state to child care providers. DCF is in the process of</p>	

<p>Anne Mitchell – Early Childhood Landscape</p>	<p>developing a Five Year Plan for YoungStar to submit to the Joint Finance Committee in November.</p> <p>Superintendent Evers introduced Anne Mitchell, President of the Early Childhood Policy Research and co-founder of the Alliance for Early Childhood Finance in New York. Ms. Mitchell’s remarks focused on the current national landscape for early childhood.</p> <p>Ms. Mitchell began by referencing the inception of Head Start programs in the 1960’s.</p> <p>Other highlight of Ms. Mitchell’s remarks include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• early childhood development is currently a sizeable industry in every state, but it is not working as well as it could because of the fragmented funding arrangements.</li> <li>• the importance of professional development, early learning standards, and quality rating systems.</li> <li>• quality rating and improvement systems (QRIS) are incredibly important in quality improvement efforts and in helping parents make informed decisions regarding care for their children.</li> <li>• Quality rating and improvement systems are very sensible, expanding around the country, addressing things that aren’t working well.</li> <li>• the value of Governor’s Early Childhood Advisory Councils and the fact that almost every state has created one.</li> <li>• .YoungStar has a huge potential to increase quality and can reach all programs.</li> <li>• New York has a Permanent Judicial Commission on Justice for Children, and has developed ten questions that judges always ask in hearings involving children.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New York's Winning Beginnings website describes the statewide coalition working to inform policy makers and the public about the benefits of early care and learning including home visiting, Head Start, child care, and Pre-K. (<a href="http://winningbeginningny.org/">http://winningbeginningny.org/</a>)</li> <li>• The importance of public/private funding partnerships</li> <li>• A good example of measuring state early childhood benchmarks is the Risk and Reach Reports in Pennsylvania.</li> <li>• ACF and the National Governor's Association are developing an online clearinghouse of information regarding state Early Childhood Advisory Councils.</li> </ul>	
Secretary Bicha	<p>In honor of Veteran's Day, Secretary Bicha thanked Wisconsin veterans for their service and asked the Council to pause for a moment to think about the many Wisconsin children who are affected by one or both parents serving in the military.</p> <p>Secretary Bicha observed that the <i>Starting Smart and Finishing Strong</i> brochure developed by the National Chamber of Commerce delivers a persuasive message to business about the importance of early childhood investment.</p>	
Report to the Governor	<p>Secretary Bicha facilitated a discussion regarding the Council's draft report to the Governor.</p> <p>Secretary Bicha asked if there was a motion to approve the report to the Governor. A motion was brought to approve the report by Linda Davis and seconded by Nancy Armbrust.</p> <p>Secretary Bicha thanked everyone for their work on the report.</p>	<p>A motion was passed approving the draft ECAC report to the Governor.</p>

<p>Reggie Bicha - Council Structure and Scope: Minutes and Grant Updates</p>	<p>Secretary Bicha called for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2010 meeting. A motion was brought to approve the minutes by Dick Schlimm and seconded by Peter Kelly.</p> <p>Secretary Bicha discussed the anticipated hiring process for the position of Staff to the Council. It is anticipated that Council Staff will report to Superintendent Evers and the Secretary of DCF.</p>	<p>A motion was passed approving the minutes of the September 11, 2010 meeting.</p>
<p>Superintendent Evers-Longitudinal Data System</p>	<p>Superintendent Evers reported on the Longitudinal Data System (LDS) grant and its relationship to the Council's interest in development of a comprehensive longitudinal data system.</p> <p>.</p>	
<p>Next Steps and Closing Comments</p>	<p>Secretary Bicha reported that the following meeting dates have been set up for 2011:</p> <p><b>February 24, 2011</b>, from 9:00 to 11:30  <b>June 16, 2011</b>, from 9:00 to noon  <b>September 22, 2011</b>, from 9:00 to noon  <b>November 17, 2011</b>, from 9:00 to noon</p> <p>Secretary Bicha indicated he was very pleased with the accomplishments of the Council. He said that we have just begun our work, but we need to take great pride and persevere in these important endeavors. Secretary Bicha thanked the Council members for their strong commitment to early childhood development.</p> <p>Superintendent Evers said that his goal is to get strong early childhood programs around the state and that we can all stand tall. His obligation is to work with the new Governor to move forward.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned.</p>	

